

one day obtain her doctorate degree in the field.

Caraline's interest in and commitment to scientific advancement is an inspiration to all those who meet her. At the Arizona Science Center IMAX Theater, Caraline presented Katie's Law to motivate students and demonstrate the ability of one person to make an impact on an entire society. It is individuals like Caraline, whose resolute persistence, determination and resolve to effect meaningful change who truly define our country's values.

Mr. Speaker, I want to take this moment to recognize and honor Caraline Sepich. With her sister forever in her heart, I have no doubt that Caraline will continue to accomplish great things in all her future endeavors.

#### PERSONAL EXPLANATION

#### HON. THOMAS E. PETRI

OF WISCONSIN

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 18, 2014*

Mr. PETRI. Mr. Speaker, on June 17, 2014, due to delayed transportation to Washington, I was unable to vote on rollcall 313, final passage of H.R. 3375, to designate the community-based outpatient clinic of the Department of Veterans Affairs to be constructed at 3141 Centennial Boulevard, Colorado Springs, Colorado, as the "PFC Floyd K. Lindstrom Department of Veterans Affairs Clinic," and rollcall 314, final passage of H.R. 1671, to designate the facility of the United States Postal Service located at 6937 Village Parkway in Dublin, California, as the "James 'Jim' Kohnen Post Office." Had I been present, I intended to vote "yes."

#### INTRODUCTION OF THE UNITED STATES COMMISSION ON AN OPEN SOCIETY WITH SECURITY ACT OF 2014

#### HON. ELEANOR HOLMES NORTON

OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 18, 2014*

Ms. NORTON. Mr. Speaker, as the nation's capital brings thousands of Americans to Washington, D.C. this tourist season, I rise to reintroduce the United States Commission on an Open Society with Security Act of 2014. The bill expresses an idea I began working on when the first signs of the closing of parts of our open society appeared after the Oklahoma City bombing, well before 9/11. This bill grows more urgent as an increasing variety of security measures proliferate throughout the country without any thought about the effects on common freedoms and ordinary public access, and often without guidance from the government or bona fide security experts. Take the example of government buildings. Federal building security has gotten so out of control that a tourist passing by some federal buildings cannot even get in to use the restroom or enjoy the many restaurants. The security for federal buildings has too long been unduly influenced by non-security experts, such as the administrator in federal agencies, who do not take into account actual threats and, as a result, spend taxpayer dollars on needless secu-

rity procedures or insist on restricting the public without regard to risk.

Another example is the District of Columbia's only public heliport, which the Transportation Security Administration (TSA) and Federal Aviation Administration (FAA) shut down following the September 11, 2001 terrorist attacks, without explanation or means to appeal the decision. Just days after the 9/11 attacks, helicopter service was restored in New York City, the major target of the attacks. However, even twelve years after the attacks, TSA and FAA and particularly the Secret Service still will not permit commercial helicopters to fly to D.C., unlike all other cities in the U.S.

The bill I reintroduce today would begin a systematic investigation that fully takes into account the importance of maintaining our democratic traditions while responding adequately to the real and substantial threat that terrorism poses. To accomplish its difficult mission, the bill authorizes a 21-member commission, with the president designating nine members and the House and Senate each designating six members, to investigate the balance that should be required between openness and security. The commission would be composed not only of military and security experts, but, for the first time at the same table, also experts from such fields as business, architecture, technology, law, city planning, art, engineering, philosophy, history, sociology, and psychology. To date, questions of security most often have been left almost exclusively to security and military experts. They are indispensable participants, but these experts should not alone resolve all the new and unprecedented issues raised by terrorism in an open society. In order to strike the security/access balance required by our democratic traditions, a diverse group of experts needs to be at the same table.

For years, parts of our open society have gradually been closed down because of terrorism and the fear of terrorism, on an often ad hoc basis. Some federal buildings such as the U.S. Capitol have been able to deal with security issues, and then resume their openness to the public. Others, like the new Department of Transportation headquarters, remain mostly inaccessible to the public. These examples, drawn from the nation's capital, are replicated in public buildings throughout the United States.

After 9/11, Americans expected additional and increased security adequate to protect citizens against the frightening threat of terrorism. However, in our country, people also expect their government to be committed and smart enough to undertake this awesome new responsibility without depriving them of their personal liberty. These times will long be remembered for the rise of terrorism in the world and in this country and for the unprecedented challenges it has brought. Nevertheless, we must provide ever-higher levels of security for our residents and public spaces while maintaining a free and open democratic society. What we have experienced since Oklahoma City and 9/11 is no ordinary threat that we expect to be over in a matter of years. The end point could be generations from now. The indeterminate nature of the threat adds to the necessity of putting aside ad hoc approaches to security developed in isolation from the goal of maintaining an open society.

When we have faced unprecedented and perplexing issues in the past, we have had the

good sense to investigate them deeply before moving to resolve them. Examples include the National Commission on Terrorist Attacks Upon the United States (also known as the 9/11 Commission), the Commission on the Intelligence Capabilities of the United States Regarding Weapons of Mass Destruction (also known as the Silberman-Robb Commission), and the Kerner Commission, which investigated the riots that swept American cities in the 1960s and 1970s. In the aftermath of the Navy Yard shooting, I wrote to the President of the United States requesting the establishment of an independent panel to investigate issues raised by that tragedy and to evaluate how to secure federal employees who work in facilities like the Navy Yard that are a part of a residential or business community. However, this bill seeks a commission that would act not in the wake of events but before a crisis-level erosion of basic freedoms takes hold and becomes entrenched. Because global terrorism is likely to be long lasting, we cannot afford to allow the proliferation of security measures that neither require nor are subject to civilian oversight or an analysis of alternatives and repercussions on freedom and commerce.

With no vehicles for leadership on issues of security and openness, we have been left to muddle through, using blunt 19th-century approaches, such as crude blockades, unsightly barriers around beautiful monuments, and other signals that our society is closing down, all without appropriate exploration of possible alternatives. The threat of terrorism to an open society is too serious to be left to ad hoc problem-solving. Such approaches are often as inadequate as they are menacing.

We can do better, but only if we recognize and come to grips with the complexities associated with maintaining a society of free and open access in a world characterized by unprecedented terrorism. The place to begin is with a high-level commission of experts from a broad array of disciplines to help chart the new course that will be required to protect our people and our precious democratic institutions and traditions.

#### CAPITOL HILL OCEAN WEEK AND OCEAN PROTECTION

#### HON. ALBIO SIRE

OF NEW JERSEY

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 18, 2014*

Mr. SIRE. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in support of smart and sustainable management of our country's oceans and fishery systems. America's ocean resources are an important part of our economy and environment and we must work to protect and maintain them.

The seafood industry plays a crucial role in communities across our nation. For example, the Mid-Atlantic region's seafood industry has generated over 137,000 jobs, \$18 billion in sales, and \$4 billion in income. More sales impacts were generated by importers in New Jersey than any other sector in any other state in the region at \$5.5 billion. Employment impacts in New Jersey were the highest in the region with over 13,000 full- and part-time jobs generated by recreational fishing activities in the state.

As researchers, fisheries, and various ocean experts visit Capitol Hill in honor of Capitol Hill

Ocean Week we are reminded of the great benefit strong ocean management laws play in our environment and economy. These policies are necessary to protect our oceans from being overfished and putting various species in danger. With a future full of new and daunting challenges for our fishermen and coastal communities, now is the time we must act to maintain effective ocean management policies.

HONORING THE METROPOLITAN  
WASHINGTON COUNCIL AFL-CIO  
PRESIDENT, JOSLYN "JOS" WIL-  
LIAMS

**HON. STENY H. HOYER**

OF MARYLAND

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 18, 2014*

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I rise to pay tribute to one of labor's strongest advocates in our region. Joslyn "Jos" Williams has been President of the Metropolitan Washington Council, AFL-CIO, for 32 years, serving as an advocate for working men and women throughout Maryland, Virginia, and the District of Columbia. Throughout that time, he has made history as the union's first African-American president.

Mr. Williams will be honored at the Maryland State and District of Columbia AFL-CIO annual "Salute to Leadership" dinner on June 20, and it is an honor that is much deserved and well earned. Having risen through the ranks of the union's leadership over the course of his career as an organizer and activist, he has applied his knowledge, care, and experience each day to making sure that the organization's members are not only well represented in discussions with private and public sector managers but that they have access to opportunities that provide pathways to middle-class success.

Mr. Williams came to this country as an immigrant while still a teenager, arriving from Jamaica with the goal of pursuing his American Dream. After working for the Library of Congress and becoming active in his local chapter of the American Federation of Government Employees, Mr. Williams realized that his calling was to make sure that his fellow workers could pursue their American Dreams as well. Thanks to his leadership, membership in his local chapter grew from 100 to 600 members over the course of just two years.

Today, Mr. Williams oversees an organization that is 150,000-workers strong and that plays an important role in the life of the National Capital Region. He has fought for fair pay, safe working conditions, and access to affordable health care and secure retirement savings. His work has surely helped—and continues to help—so many workers and their families participate in growing our economy and strengthening our region's communities.

I hope my colleagues will join me in congratulating Mr. Williams on this well deserved honor, and I thank him for his service to workers in Maryland's Fifth District and throughout our region.

HONORING MAYOR PEGGY  
THOMSEN

**HON. BARBARA LEE**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 18, 2014*

Ms. LEE of California. Mr. Speaker, I rise today to honor the extraordinary life of Mayor Peggy Thomsen. Known throughout the San Francisco Bay Area as the Mayor of Albany, California, a consummate public servant, and as a dedicated wife and mother, Mayor Thomsen has left an indelible mark on our community. With her passing on June 8, 2014, we look to the outstanding quality of her life's work and the inspiring role she played in our community.

Born on February 28, 1940 in St. Louis, Missouri, Mayor Peggy Thomsen and her family moved frequently around the United States, including to Denver, Colorado and Beaverton, Oregon, before settling in Fresno, California. Mayor Thomsen was passionate about education. After earning her Bachelor of Arts and Masters of Arts degrees at California State University, Fresno, she went on to earn a Ph.D. in Educational Administration from the University of California, Berkeley.

Meeting her husband, John, at California State University, Fresno, they moved to Albany where Mayor Thomsen began her career teaching in Albany and Richmond schools. She also was an instructor, curriculum planner and seminar presenter at Heald College in San Francisco.

Mayor Peggy Thomsen was deeply committed to helping others. Prior to being elected as Mayor of Albany, her civic service and leadership manifested in various ways. She served on the Albany Unified School District School Board for 16 years and spent 14 years on the City Council. Additionally, she was President of the Parent Teacher Association Council, Albany Girl Scout Leader and a School Resource Volunteer Coordinator.

Dedicated to leadership in her community, Mayor Peggy Thomsen served on the Social and Economic Justice Committee, Albany Waterfront Committee and the Albany Charter Review Committee. Mayor Thomsen also served on numerous regional committees, including the California Elected Women's Association for Education and Research and the California School Board Association Delegate Assembly.

In addition to Ms. Thomsen's prolific career, she received numerous awards for her work in the community. She was the recipient of Service Awards from the Albany Unified School District, March of Dimes, California State Parent Teacher Association and Albany Jaycees. Furthermore, her commitment to her students was demonstrated in the Teacher Enrichment and the Teacher of the Year Awards she received from Heald College.

Today California's 13th Congressional District salutes and honors an outstanding individual and community leader, Mayor Peggy Thomsen. As a 47 year resident of Albany, her dedication and efforts impacted so many lives throughout the Bay Area. Her legacy will live on in the hearts and minds of all of those whom she inspired. I join all of Peggy's loved ones in celebrating her incredible life. She will be deeply missed.

HONORING THE UNITED STATES  
COAST GUARD AUXILIARY

**HON. ROBERT A. BRADY**

OF PENNSYLVANIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 18, 2014*

Mr. BRADY of Pennsylvania. Mr. Speaker, I rise to honor the upcoming 75th birthday of the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary, formerly known as the Volunteer Reserve of the Coast Guard. Founded in June of 1939, the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary has become one of the premier volunteer organizations in the country.

The United States Coast Guard Auxiliary was formed by an act of Congress in June 1939 and has provided direct support and assistance to the Coast Guard since. Four of the first five Coast Guard Auxiliary Flotillas were formed in the Philadelphia and Southern New Jersey regions, and we are proud to be the birthplace of this organization. The Coast Guard Auxiliary provides two million hours of volunteer service to the Coast Guard and the boating public annually, saving hundreds of lives and providing aid to countless more. This June, the Coast Guard Auxiliary will celebrate its 75th birthday on the banks of the Delaware River, where the first Coast Guard began its service in 1790.

I ask you and my other distinguished colleagues to join me in commending the United States Coast Guard Auxiliary for this distinguished milestone in its already impressive history. May we all take this moment to thank the Coast Guard Auxiliary for its dedication and hard work in preserving the safety of our shores.

PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. RICHARD L. HANNA**

OF NEW YORK

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 18, 2014*

Mr. HANNA. Mr. Speaker, on Tuesday, June 17, 2014, I was absent and missed roll-call votes Nos. 313 and 314.

Had I been present, I would have voted:

Rollcall No. 313—"Yea."

Rollcall No. 314—"Yea."

IN RECOGNITION OF SACRAMENTO  
CITY COUNCILWOMAN BONNIE  
PANNELL

**HON. DORIS O. MATSUI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, June 18, 2014*

Ms. MATSUI. Mr. Speaker, I rise today in recognition of Sacramento City Councilwoman Bonnie Pannell who has successfully served the people of Sacramento for the past sixteen years. As her family, friends, and colleagues gather to celebrate her outstanding career and numerous accomplishments, I ask my colleagues to join me in recognizing Councilwoman Pannell as an outstanding public servant.

Prior to being elected to the Sacramento City Council, Councilwoman Pannell was a